

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
PROCLAMATION

EO 97-01

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME — GREETINGS:

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER DESIGNATING THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AS A MODEL EMPLOYER IN PROMOTING AND FACILITATING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ENFORCEMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT.

WHEREAS, all children need and deserve emotional and financial support freely given by both parents, but, unfortunately, some children must rely on the establishment and enforcement of a court order to receive even minimal monetary support; and

WHEREAS, effective October 1, 1997, the Federal Welfare Reform Act of 1996 requires employers to report new hire information within twenty (20) days of hire to a designated state agency; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas, under Act 989 of 1985 gives the Office of Child Support Enforcement the authority to receive information including financial data on employees from all state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas, through its various agencies and institutions of higher learning, is one of the State's largest employers and should set an example by ensuring that the State, its agents and employees shall cooperate to the fullest extent in the child support mission in order to ensure that all children are provided the support to which they are legally entitled;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Huckabee, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby order:

1. The State of Arkansas is hereby established as a model employer in promoting and facilitating the establishment and enforcement of child support.

2. All State agencies and their agents shall cooperate fully in all efforts undertaken to establish paternity and child support orders and to enforce the collection of child and medical support in every situation where such actions may be required.

3. All State agencies and their agents are encouraged to provide information to their employees and members about such actions that they should take and services that are available to ensure that children are provided support. To assist in this effort, the Office of Child Support Enforcement shall periodically disseminate information to agencies and entities of State government on the actions and services available to assist in the support of children.

4. All State agencies and their agents shall cooperate with the Office of Child Support Enforcement in the development and implementation of a system to report all new hires, providing sufficient information to facilitate the prompt establishment and enforcement of child support orders.

5. If any part of the Executive Order is found to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder shall remain in full force and effect.

6. This Order shall become effective on January 3rd, 1997 and shall remain in effect until amended, modified or rescinded by another Executive Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed at the Capitol in Little Rock on this 3rd day of January in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred ninety-seven.



GOVERNOR MIKE HUCKABEE

SECRETARY OF STATE SHARON PRIEST